

January 13, 2014

Dear People of Good Shepherd,

With this letter I announce my resignation as Senior Pastor of Good shepherd Lutheran, effective February 15. Sunday, Christ the King Lutheran Church of Delafield, WI voted to call me as their pastor and I have accepted their call.

I make this announcement with deep appreciation for the many ways you have supported me and my family in the more than seven and a half years we've been in Viroqua. Together, we have done many things to extend the life of Christ beyond the walls of God's church. I consider it to be an honor to have been pastor of a congregation with such a rich history of serving the community in powerful ways. Good Shepherd has forever impacted people through hospice, the hopeful center, the food pantry, the clothes closet, and more. In these things you give strong witness to God's love for the world. It has been my hope to help you continue to engage in ministry according to the strong heritage of ministry present in this congregation.

I am proud of the ministry we have done together: about a thousand worship services, more than 150 funerals, several baptisms, and a few weddings. I am pleased by the connections cultivated with the various communities present within Viroqua in the time I've been here. God's mission always calls the church to offer itself to those around it, as Jesus does for all. I am most proud of the ways we have engaged youth and consider it an honor to have played, traveled, and worshipped with them.

The next couple of weeks will be busy for me and my family. We will have many things to accomplish in this transition. I will continue my pastoral duties, while working on getting my boys settled in a new school district. I will also take some time off, using vacation days I was not able to take because of staff transitions last year. My final Sunday in worship will be February 2.

I have many projects to complete in the next two weeks and I know that it is not possible for me to make the rounds to visit with all of you.. I have, however, set aside some time on my calendar over the next couple of weeks to visit with those who call to set up a time for me to stop by.

I ask you to keep me and my family in your prayers during this time. We are moving the boys to Delafield, right away, so that they can begin the new Semester January 21. Kim will continue to work in La Crosse until she has a pastoral call in the Delafield/Milwaukee area. We will be maintaining two households until the house sells – which we hope will happen soon.

Again, I express my gratitude for the ways you have supported me and my family. I am appreciative and have learned much from my time here. I am confident that Pastor Hoversten's ministry will continue to be strong among you. She is an excellent pastor with whom I have enjoyed serving. If you would like to talk with me further about my plans or your questions, please feel free to call me and set up a time for us to sit together.

In Christ,

Pastor Jordan